# CITY TO CRUSH GAS TRUST BY BUILDING ITS OWN PLANT.

Cary T. Hutchinson, an Electrical Engineer, Selected by Commissioner Monroe, Under the Direction of the Mayor, to at Once Draw Plans for a Building.

City Administration, Aroused by The Evening World's Exposure of the Shameful Acts of the Extortioners, Is Using Its Entire Power to Crush the Ring and Afford Relief,

Mayor Low started right in to-day on the work of fightling the gas combine by establishing a city lighting plant.

Acting under his direction, Robert Grier Monroe, Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, employed Cary T. Hutchinson, an electrical engineer, of No. 56 Pine street, to draw plans and estimate the cost of the plant.

This is the first real move in the fight against the greed, the extortion and the arrogant tyranny of the combine, and the whole power of the administration is committed to it. The city plant once established, there is hope that private consumers may be freed from the grip that makes them bow to the demands of the Trust or sit in darkness.

#### ROUSED TO ACTION BY EVENING WORLD.

The city authorities have been roused to action by the stories of brutal outrage of private rights and insolent robbery of householders, month in and month out for years, which have been told for a week past in The

The bitter murmurings and complaints which have been made in private by the three and a half millions of people dependent for their light on whims of a lighting combine controlling practically every gas and electric plant in the five boroughs of the greater city have been in vain. The combine answered appeals for justice, for fair play with indecent, insulting brevity until the community, driven beyond mere private complaining, has risen to public clamoring and stirred the authorities to action.

The transportation companies have recently learned a lesson of the electricity. power of the public when once it rises to exert it, and their grip and greed have not been commensurate with that of the lighting combine.

#### TO FIGHT WITH DETERMINATION.

the greater for the feeling is more bitter, and with three "illions and a half of citizens embittered by the abuse of years indignantly and unitedly demanding the clipping of the combine's claws, it must look well to its "privileges" of the past.

The campaign was started yesterday by a letter from Commissioner Monroe to the Board of Estimate setting forth officially the extortion of the combine as practised on the municipality.

Commissioner Monroe's letter furnished absolute proof that in every purposes in other municipalities.

#### CITY PLANT THE ONLY REMEDY.

When this letter had been read Comptroller Grout said: "Municipal \$13.04 1-3 per lamp per year and the New Amsterdam for \$12. is then the only solution and the city's safeguard." "I agree

ablish a municipal plant. That will prevent extortion."

by facts and figures," declared Commissioner Monroe.

to pay for the services of the expert who is to report on the plans for the municipal plant.

The Mayor declared that he would personally draw up to present to the Legislature a bill asking that the Board of Estimate and Apportionment be empowered to build the plant and extending the Commissioner's in the matter of letting contracts.

### GROUT FOR CITY OWNERSHIP.

own plant for lighting the city.

"I have always been in favor of municipal owneship," said Mr. Grout. "Mr. Monroe's suggestion is a good one. The city must do something. g : light is a great improvement over the old open burner. Electricity is The prices we are now paying are exorbitant and the only real method of the illuminant, however, of the greatest importance for public lighting. relief to my mind seems to be in municipal ownership.'

Just what the Board of Estimate will do with the recommendation of Commissioner Monroe that the city reject all the bids of the various lighting companies is uncertain. If the board should decide to do this the city would be probably placed in the position of private consumers and might be compelled by the lighting companies to pay for city lighting at ordinary consumers' rates."

#### "EXTRAORDINARY!" GASPS TRUST OFFICIAL.

When President Gawtry, of the Consolidated Gas Company, was seen by an Evening World reporter to-day he had just finished reading station, and on Dec. 24 last completed its fifteenth year of municipal owner-Commissioner Monroe's letter to the Board of Estimate and Apportion-

"Of course we will issue a statement," he said. "Such extraordinary figures as are presented in Commissioner Monroe's letter demand a reply. The figures are really extraordinary; but before the Commissioner can to 1902. It has cost that city during sixteen years \$3,400,663. The total be answered by our company we must make an investigation. But we amount rented electric lights would have cost Chicago for the corresponding pany for redress, and was told: "You will make reply. When? Oh, I can't just say," and President Gawtry, repeating something more about "extraordinary figures indeed," returned SHIPWRECKED MEN IN PORT.

Gas stocks declined in the market to-day. Consolidated Gas dropped 3 3-4 points and Brooklyn Union 5 points.

### MR. MONROE GIVES PROOF OF THE BIG LIGHTING TRUST.

total loss. The Ararat was from Dela-goa Bay via Barbadoes, for Jucaro, Cuba, in ballast. Capt. Reinertsen got his foot crushed between the ship's boat and the vessel and is now in hospital at liavana. The Norwegian Jousul sent the men home. In his letter to the Board of Estimate Commissioner Monroe said: Within the past five years the lighting interests in this city have all tically united, and even in those boroughs where there has been no

CITY OFFICIALS WHO AGREE IT IS TIME TO CURB GAS MONOPOLY AND WILL HELP PETITION THE LEGISLATURE TO OBTAIN RELIEF.



#### CITY OFFICIALS DENOUNCE THE HOLD-UP METHODS PRACTISED BY THE GAS COMBINATION.

I will assume the responsibility of having legislation passed in favor of an electric light plant to be owned by the city and which will supply the streets and municipal buildings with light.

-MAYOR LOW.

I heartily favor the immediate steps for the acquisition by the city of its own lighting plant. We have taken the first step. There is no retreat now. -PRESIDENT C. V. FORNES,

of the Board of Aldermen.

ormal consolidation the territory has been apportioned. In the Borough of Manhattan both illuminants have been absorbed by a single corporation.

Now that the outbreak has come the force of the explosion will be the price remain fixed, but all improvement in the utilization of

year additional for a lamp with an incandescent mantle. It costs the Borough of Manhattan \$11.50 additional, and for the same improvement we must pay \$15 a year in Brooklyn.

#### HIGH BIDS ALL AROUND.

"The Consolidated Gas Company agrees to furnish the ordinary street borough of the city the gas combine is in control and that the lighting lamp with open gas burner at \$17.50 per year, and its bid for gas lamps with costs two and three times as much per light as is expended for similar mantles is \$29 per lamp per year. Neither the Standard Gas Light Company nor the New Amsterdam Gas Light Company (both controlled by the Consolidated Gas Company) bids for incandescent gas lights. Both agree to furnish the ordinary gas lights for much less than \$17.50-the Standard for

"Their bids are for such lights as are or may be on the line or lines of said the Mayor, and the other members of the board nodded in their mains. These comparatively low bids are induced by restrictions in their charters; but the city is virtually prevented from getting the benefit of these lower bids as far as incandescent or mantle lights are concerned. "Yes," said President Swanstrom, "let us do as Detroit did, and es- If it is desired to substitute on a Standard or New Amsterdam lamp an incandescent burner for the ordinary open burner, it is necessary to transfer the "I am certainly in favor of establishing a municipal electric lighting lamp from the mains, or, to speak more accurately, from the books of one of plant," repeated the Mayor, "in view of what Commissioner Monroe has those companies to the books of the Consolidated Gas Company, paying, of course, the latter company's price.

"No independent gas company in any district has bid against another "Yes, and I can back up every word of my statement to this board independent gas company; no independent electric light company has bid bill has been more than doubted in the against another independent electric light company. In the entire five bor-The board voted unanimously on the resolution, appropriating \$1,000 oughs there have been no opposing bidders for supplying the same class of light to the same district-unless we may consider the Welsbach Company, which has put in a bid, but higher than that of the Consolidated Gas Company, for its own Welsbach mantle lights.

#### WANTS CHARTER AMENDED.

ge price is \$81.08.

Crew of Bark Ararat Lost on Cuban

Coast Brought by Ward Liner. The Ward line steamer Esperanza, which arrived to-day from Havana,

prought nine shipwrecked seamen. The men were the crew of the Norwegian

bark Ararat, which went ashore near Zaza, Cuba, Feb. 22, and became a

"I therefore, recommend that Section 530 of the Charter be so amended that the Commissioner of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity may make such contracts without public bidding and for a term of not exceeding three years when authorized by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. If these Comptroller Grout, when seen to-day, declared he was in favor of amendments be passed the Board of Estimate and Apportionment can con-Commissioner Monroe's proposal that the city construct and maintain its sider all questions relating to the cost of manufacture and distribution of the supplies under consideration and contracts fair to both parties can be en-

"I have called your attention to the fact that the mantle or incandescent Sixty per cent. of our entire appropriation for this year, or about \$2,000,000,

"In the borough of Manhattan the price bid for a 2,000-candle-nower lamp is \$146. The price in Brooklyn for a 1,200-candle-power lamp is \$124.50. "I have secured from sixty-eight cities throughout the country the In twenty-three other cities using 1,200-candle-power lamps the aver-

formidable, but to my mind its strength is more apparent than real.

"On Dec. 24, 1887, Chicago placed in operation its first municipal lighting ship and operation of an electric lighting system. For the year 1902 the ot:1 cost per lamp of 2,000 candle power per year is stated by it to be \$53.51. WHAT CHICAGO HAS DONE.

"The city of Chicago also publishes a report showing all that has been xpended for construction and operation of its electric-light plant from 1887

saving which in a few years would pay for the cost of the plant. The city now is in the grip of a huge monopoly. -COMMISSIONER ROBERT GRIER MONROE.

This is a matter that should have been taken up

The city should own its own lighting plant. It

-COMPTROLLER GROUT.

long ago. The city must throw off the yoke of the

can supply its own light not only cheaper, but at a

lighting monopoly and have its own lighting plant.

whether the city can with better results maintain and operate its own plant is for you to determine. I do, however, urge that legislation be immediately "A wide extension of street lamps provided with incandescent mantles is greatly needed. By this method the same consumption of gas produces three plant for street lighting in case later you decide that it is in the interest of times the illumination given by the open burner. It costs Chicago \$2.40 a the public so to do.

"R. G. MONROE."

## MORE COMPLAINTS FROM VICTIMS OF THE GAS TRUST.

complaints. In the letters herewith pub-

Just One Example.

To the Editor of The Evening World: Will you please print this complaint in your paper as a good example of the robbery of the Gas Trust?. January bill \$8.40, whereas February's bill was \$1.
M. S.

The gas company says it receives no about it declares he is being robbed. My last few months. There's no doubt in and directors are robbing the people mercilessly. You will be entitled to great commendation if you can put a check upon the gas corporations' cu pidity and criminality. I have thought that the gas question ought to be made an issue in the next and succeeding campaigns and candidates compelled to declare themselves in favor of legislation vision until some substantial relief is

How Would You Like It?

the Editor of The Evening World: How would you like to be the gas always out in the open air, but it isn't such a nice job as it is cracked up to cerning the indexers. The indexer's salary a few years ago was \$3.50 day, but to-day they get from \$1.50 to \$2 a day.

will take in both sides of One Hundred and Thirteenth street from Fifth aveaue to the East River. He is allowed tul 2.15 P. M. to finish. He has to look at 00 metres. If he can't finish his book on time he will guess at the indexes he gets laid off for a week.

State Inspection a Farce. the Editor of The Evening World:

I, for one, am thankful you are put ting forth efforts to check the unjust charges of the gas companies. It is time

Finding my bills have nearly doubled while using the same number of burners and no increase in size of tips, I ap

period is \$3,535,875. I do not know that Chicago gives us the most successful example of municipal lighting, but their statement does not involve intricate questions of bookkeeping. It does show that Chicago has earned the cost of its electric plant, which includes the cost of considerable subway Detroit has also a municipal plant. In a report dated June 30, 1902, the

cost of a 2,000-candle-power lamp for Detroit is given at \$63.82.

"I believe that New York with its own plant could provide electric lighting for public uses at a cost much below what is now charged the city. Whether reasonable prices can be obtained from private companies or

I then applied to the State Inspector for justice, and paid the little charge o

to cents and was told by his repre sentative the matter would have "promp attention." Several days passed, when the New Amsterdam Gas Company's men came and removed the meter, re placing it with a new one, which regis tered still more than the old one had done, notwithstanding we used fewer

burners than previously. After a few days more I received printed slip from the State Inspecto stating he had tested my meter and found it perfectly correct.

There is no use applying to the State Inspector when he allows the gas com pany to handle the meter before he doe and then sanctions their charges. What good is the State Inspector unde

these conditions?

#### A REMARKABLE CASE. **BROOKLYN LADY** Cured of Consumption After She

Was Given Up to Die.

Was civen Up to Die.

"My physician in Brooklyn ordered me to change climate, as I had consumption. They sent me to Paris, but the change did me no good.

"I had abscesses and cavities in my lungs, and I gradually became emactated, and no one thought that I could live.

"That terrible cough and my extreme weakness gradually grow upon me. For one year I was an invalid. At night they had to prop me up in bed with pillows, as I raised from my lungs qualifies of matter streaked with blood, and my family gave me up to die. Koch treatment.

"In less than thirty days I could see an improvement. In three months I was as well as ever.

"I will prove to any one who will write me how truly I have spoken in this testimoniar, and how these great Koch doctors at 48 West 22d St., New York, cured me when everything else failed."

JEURALGIA CAN BE CURED

MRS. WM. HALL,



Dr. Greene's NERVURA

#### HOW NEW YORK IS ROBBED AND OTHER CITIES SAVE MONEY

	11 - C PARKET NAME
WHAT NEW YORK PAYS FOR ELECTRIC LIGHTS.  Open arc lamps, 2,000 candle power	146.00
WHAT OTHER CITIES PAY FOR SIMILAR LIGHTS.	
Chicago, 2,000 candle power	53.51
Detroit, 2,000 candle power	63.82
Allegheny, Pa.; 2,000 candle power	74.29
Jacksonville Fla.; 2,000 candle power	
Evansville, Ind.; 2,000 candle power	
WHAT IT COSTS NEW YORK FOR GAS.	
	17.50
Other boroughs, 20 to 25 candle power\$16.00 to	K 255 JOHN STANKE
	29.00
	47.00
Other boroughs, mantle burners, single	2010/64/6/2005
WHAT OTHER CITIES PAY FOR GAS.	(A.HE)
Wilmington, Del. (lowest)	13,80
N. v Haven, Conn. (highest)	
Average price for ten cities, including repairs	

# A Half Million People Wrote Me and Got Well.

They simply gave me their addresses and stated which

I will then mail you an order on your druggist for six bottles Dr. Shoop's Restorative. You may take it a month on trial. If it succeeds, the cost is \$5.50. If it fails, I will pay the druggist myself. And your mere word shall de-

I have the records of nearly 550,000 sick ones who have accepted that offer. They were all difficult cases—some of them desperate. People don't write me about mild attacks. They buy one or two bottles, get well, and I never hear

from them. Yet 39 out of each 40 who secured those six tottles paid for them gladly, because they were cured.

Cn Jan. 11, 1903, I published in the Chicago papers the names and addresses of one thousand people in that city alone whom I had cured of chronic diseases in just the past six months. past six months.

I need not tell you that no other remedy ever made a record like that. And no other remedy for chronic diseases could be supplied on an offer like mine, without ruining the man who made it.

The reason for it all is that my Restorative strengthens

the inside nerves. It brings back the power that operates the vital organs. It is the result of my lifetime's work. Common treatments fail because they aim to doctor the organ that is weak, and such results at best are but temporary. A weak organ must have more nerve power, just as a weak engine must have more steam. And that is all that is needed—all that medicine can do.

# Read To-Day's Home List

FOR TO-MORROW'S HOUSE-HUNTING.

THE WORLD: SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1903 Furnished Rooms to Let. Furnished Rooms to Let. AVE. Bi seffer-Bestrubte Blagte divine Ave. 118 Personal free and all And hope come; but the party of or give, tide drap large room, march OF APR OF LAND SOME DOWN or ave pale the - Large from to AND DAY BOARD THE BET SAID BY COMMAND THE BET SAID BY COMMAND THE BET SAID BY COMMAND THE BETT SAID BY COMMAND THE BETT SAID PLANT II WE W. T. W. IV. MATE OF .. & G.-Front room, private boson, A THE STATE OF THE STATE AND THE STATE OF TH